

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 282421

STADIS////////////////////////////////

EO. ,1652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: US-ITALY CIVAIR QUESTIONS

REF: STATE 262512

1. ON NOVEMBER 5, SERAFINI OF ITALIAN EMBASSY SENT PAPER TO STYLES (EB/OA) IN RESPONSE US PAPER DESCRIBED REFTTEL. ACCOMPANYING LETTER STATES PAPER DOES NOT REPRESENT FORMAL ITALIAN POSITION BUT IS SERAFINI'S "PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION." DEPARTMENT HAS REASON BELIEVE IT IS MORE THAN THAT, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENTS IN LIGHT REPORT IN ROME 18219 THAT GOI IS GEARING UP FOR OVERALL CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS WITH US.

2. TEXT OF PAPER FOLLOWS:

QUOTE. (1) THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY FULLY SHARES THE VIEWS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ON THE NECESSITY FOR THE TWO COUNTRIES TO LIVE UP TO THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE EXISTING AGREEMENT.

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(2) THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY WOULD BE PREPARED--WITHOUT PREJUDICING ITS INTERPRETATION OF THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT RELATED TO THE ISSUES OF CHANGE OF GAUGE AND USE OF 747-F--

TO PROVIDE ASSURANCES THAT IT WILL EXAMINE FAVORABLY, ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS, THE PROPOSED OPERATIONS BY THE US CARRIERS.

(3) PRIOR CONSULTATIONS SHOULD, HOWEVER, TAKE PLACE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY, IN CASE THE LATTER HAS REASONS TO BELIEVE THAT CHANGE OF GAUGE OR USE OF 747-F MAY CONSTITUTE AN INCREASE IN THE OFFER OF CAPACITY IN EXCESS OF THE NEEDS OF TRAFFIC AND INCONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES PROVIDED FOR IN THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT OR THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.

(4) THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE PREPARED TO EXTEND THE PROVISIONAL RIGHTS TO COTERMINALIZE THE ALITALIA OPERATIONS TO BOSTON-CHICAGO, SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS THAT:
1) ALITALIA WILL SERVE CHICAGO ONLY VIA BOSTON; 2) CHICAGO FREQUENCY SHOULD NOT EXCEED DAILY SERVICE; 3) ALITALIA WILL NOT INTRODUCE SERVICE TO US POINTS CURRENTLY NOT BEING SERVED.

(5) THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY AGREE THAT--EVEN THOUGH THE CONSULTATIONS REQUESTED BY THE ITALIAN SIDE, UNDER ARTICLE 5 OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND RELATED TO THE EXCESS OF CAPACITY OFFERED IN THE WINTER SCHEDULES FOR ALL CARGO AND MIXED SERVICES, MAY NOT TAKE PLACE BECAUSE OF PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENTS BY THE TWO SIDES--THE PROCEDURE PROVIDED FOR IN SAID MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE "EX POST FACTO" CONSULTATIONS OVER EXCESS CAPACITY MAY NEVERTHELESS BE DEEMED TO BE FULFILLED. END QUOTE.

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